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STAT

15 September 1959

*Ret. Mr. Komer*

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

R. W. Komer

SUBJECT:

Approach to Regional Arms Measures in Europe

As one contribution to the "new ideas" hopper, let me throw in the attached analysis of our problems in Western Europe. It seeks an approach to capitalizing on what may otherwise turn out to be a unilateral U. S. disengagement from the area.

You will recall Admiral Dudley's comment in his memorandum to Mr. Coolidge regarding the possibility of obtaining major Soviet concessions as a result of what would otherwise be unilateral U.S. troop withdrawals from Europe. Beyond this, ~~the~~ paper suggests our taking the political offensive in the one area around the Soviet periphery where our policy has had great success in re-establishing a real position of strength (in all but the military sense).

Many of the preliminary remarks are by now dated, but the essential elements seem as valid now as they were in April. This paper has already been seen informally in ISA, US element Standing Group, and S/P; in all three it provoked interested responses. Hence, if you see no objections, I don't mind your passing it on to the three principals. This is a topic which may well prove to be one of the most fruitful for the Coolidge group to attack.

*R. W. Komer*

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